

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 RSC-01 /014 W

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P 061227Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9649

UNCLAS TEHRAN 0081

USIAC

FOR INA - RUGH

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: VISIT OF IRANIAN TV AND RADIO FOREIGN COMMENTATOR

1. MR JAVAD ALAMIR, ADVISOR ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF IRANIAN RADIO AND TV (NIRT) AND "FOREIGN COMMENTATOR" OF NIRT PLANS ARRIVE NEW YORK JAN 15 (WASHINGTON O/A JAN 19) IN HOPE OF DOING TWO PROGRAMS: (A) INTERVIEW OF SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A KISSINGER, AND (B) PROGRAM ON BLACK MUSLIMS.

2. ALAMIR HAS WEEKLY HALF-HOUR TV "POLITICAL" PROGRAM AND RADIO PROGRAM AS WELL CALLED "SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT". TV PROGRAM, UNDERWAY FOR ABOUT TWO MONTHS, HAS INCLUDED TWO PROGRAMS ON GREECE (ELECTION AND REFERENDUM), AND PROGRAMS ON PORTUGAL, AND OTHER COUNTRIES. INTERVIEWED YASSAR ARAFAT IN CAIRO LAST WEEK AND PLANS TO DO JOBERT THIS WEEK.

3. RE BLACK MUSLIM STORY, HE SAYS IRANIANS ARE INTERESTED IN THEM FROM RELIGIOUS POINT OF VIEW, E.G., HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION MUHAMMED ALI VERY POPULAR IN IRAN. HE SAYS BLACK MUSLIM STORY WILL NOT BE POLITICAL; RATHER, HE IS INTERESTED IN THEIR SCHOOLS, RELIGION, AND SOCIETY.

4. ALAMIR ALSO SAYS HE WOULD LIKE TO LAY GROUNDWORK FOR DOING STORY ON 1976 US ELECTIONS, AND WOULD LIKE TO MEET REPS OF DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN PARTIES.

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5. HE WILL PROBABLY SEEK AGENCY ADVICE ALSO ON HIRING TWO US "ASSISTANT PRODUCERS" TO WORK WITH HIM AT NIRT IN TEHRAN. FYI: NIRT HAS A NUMBER OF SUCH FOREIGN NATIONALS WORKING AT NIRT.

6. ALAMIR IS ALSO LOCAL CORRESPONDENT FOR CBS, NEWSWEEK, WASHINGTON POST AND LE MONDE.

7. POST HAS REFERRED HIM TO MR RUGH, INA FOR INITIAL CONSULTATION AND CONSIDERATION.

WINKLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TEHRAN00081
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750004-1109
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750174/aaaacnon.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 MAR 2003 by RicharJA>; APPROVED <12 FEB 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF IRANIAN TV AND RADIO FOREIGN COMMENTATOR
TAGS: OTRA, IR, (ALAMIR, JAVAD)
To: USIA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006